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December 2002



FRONT RANGE FLYER

302nd Airlift Wing, U.S. Air Force Reserve Command

Peterson Air Force Base, Colo.



Peace in the Rockies



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FRONT RANGE FLYER

Vol. 17, No. 6
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You gotta have friends...

... and Larry sure does have friends - friends through thick and thin and miles and miles. The military continues to be a second family

4



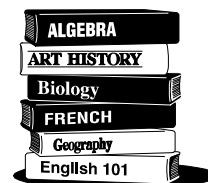
Whirlwind tour

Civic leaders from Denver, Colorado Springs and Pueblo get an introduction to the military with a once-in-a-lifetime 36-hour tour

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Educate and graduate

Will 2003 be your year to get your educational goals kick started? There is something for everyone in the wing education office.



6-7



Stars and stripes meet

The Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff took time to tack on some new stripes on the newest chief in the 310th Space Group.

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On the cover

The stillness of a sunset on the Front Range. A day's work is done for the members of the 302nd Airlift Wing - the year 2002 is reaching its final month as families get back to their routines and continue the hope for... Peace on Earth. (Photo by Lt. Col. Clancy Preston)



UTA Schedule

January 11 -12
February 8 - 9
March 8 - 9
April 5 -6

The **Front Range Flyer** is mailed each month to all 302nd Airlift Wing and 310th Space Group members on file with Personnel Systems. If you are not receiving your magazine, check with your orderly room or administration section to ensure your address is correct.

Take time to enjoy the season

By Col. Richard R. Moss
Commander

It is difficult to believe that the year is almost over. What a year this has been! This Wing has been tasked to the maximum and we met every challenge. I just returned from the AMC Commanders' Conference. Gen. John Handy, Air Mobility commander, specifically complimented the 302nd Airlift Wing for the tremendous job we did exceeding expectations during our activation. We have achieved the reputation as being the premier C-130 wing in the Air Force Reserve. We accomplished this because of you - every reservist and civilian employee of the 302nd AW. You can be extremely proud of your efforts.

During this holiday season, take this time to be with your families and friends and

enjoy the season. Please thank them on my behalf for supporting you. Without their support, we could not do that which is so critical to our nation - providing for the defense of our country.

However, as you enjoy the holiday season, please ensure that you and your loved ones remember safety - both at home and when you travel. You, and your families, are too important to have a careless accident mar what should be a joyous time of the year.

No one can predict what will happen in the next few months. However, we can be assured that the current pace of operations will continue. Every part of this wing will continue to be needed as we support the Aerospace Expeditionary Force to meet the requirements of our nation and the Air Force



throughout the world. I am sure we will continue the outstanding support as we have done in the past.

Cathy and I wish you and your families the best of holiday seasons.

Wing says 'thank you' to volunteers for so much

By Tech. Sgt. Mitch Chandran
Front Range Flyer

When reservists in the 302nd Airlift Wing were asked to activate and deploy last December, they heard, understood and acknowledged the Presidential Selective Reserve Call-up and deployed in support of America's war on terrorism.

Family and community members heeded the call as well - and the need to volunteer their time, talents and resources to the unit and family members of deployed reservists.

More than ten months later, on Nov. 2, the 302nd Family Support office sponsored a Volunteer Recognition Breakfast as one way to say "thank you" to 95 volunteers for the support they offered the wing and family members.

During the unit's activation, volunteers signed up for myriad events to include an Easter party, car washes, fund raisers, and unit-specific functions.

"Family Day was our biggest event and needed a lot of people to make it successful," said Master Sgt. Sherri Patton, NCOIC of Family Support office, "We needed so many people to volunteer to pull it off. In the end,



Billy Oneyear of the Retired Enlisted Association volunteered his time for the Wing's Easter party and Family Day. (Courtesy photo)

it went extremely well."

Not only did community members volunteer time, they also offered goods and services to deployed reservists and their families.

"We contributed 350 boxes of Girl Scout cookies in February for our reservists deployed in Germany," said Jerry Pesek, volunteer with Girl Scout Troop 550 from Aurora, Colo., "Joyce Justice, who is the troop's leader, and I, with six of our girls, came down to the 302nd AW to deliver the cookies which in turn were shipped off to reservists serving in Germany."

"We've had a tremendous amount of volunteerism from family members, civic groups, retirees and the list goes on," said Chief Master Sgt. Carolyn Rice, director of Family Support. "As one example, we had representatives from our local Retired Enlisted Association donate their time for an Easter party where more than 100 family and unit members attended. They also allowed the use of their facilities."

Reservists also realized the support of active duty units from around the base. In addition to providing functional support, active units also provided items to boost morale. "The 21st Space Wing Family Support office gave us 600 phone cards to pass out to our deploying reservists when they outprocessed for their deployment," Rice said. "This has been a great total force and total community effort."

Yes, I believe in Santa Claus

By Chaplain (Capt.) Tim Wilson
302nd Airlift Wing Chaplain

A curious question arises in the hearts of children each year right around this time. As they experience the awe of Christmas they begin to wonder. In their innocence mixed with great perplexity and an equal amount of sincerity, they ask that question which inevitably brings a forlorn look to their parents' faces.

Which father hasn't spent a quiet moment with the little one they love during the hectic holiday season only to be asked by that question which is fraught with difficulty, "Dad, is Santa Claus real?" Quick-witted men realize if they enter the "no spin zone" they risk becoming the Grinch, stealing away the mystery of Christmas. Wise men throughout the ages have come to terms with this rather delicate dilemma; they have learned to respond alike. With a sigh and a rather sheepish smile, dads tentatively answer, "Honey, I'm not sure if Santa Claus is real or not. Why don't you ask your mom, she knows all about it."

I believe in Santa Claus and so should you! No, not the rather rotund, white whiskered man robed in rosy red suit with white fuzzy fringe. But the man who was as real as the all the presents underneath last year's Christmas tree.

Who was this man known in so many cultures and surrounded by so much lore? Santa Claus has a variety of names: Jolly Ole Saint Nick, Belsnickle or Kris Kringle all refer to the same person. Our common name "Santa Claus" comes for the Dutch *Sinterklaas*, a modification of *Sint Nikolaas* or Saint Nicholas.

Saint Nicholas was born of wealthy parents in about 280 AD at the small town of Patara, a seaport located in Asia Minor (present day Turkey). Tragedy struck early in his life -- both of his parents died during an epidemic. Before their passing they gave young Nicholas the greatest gift a parent can give their children, the gift of faith.

As Nicholas grew, he dedicated himself to a life of selflessly sharing this faith with others in very practical ways. There are many stories of his generosity and compassion, how he would beg for food only to give it to the poor or how he would secretly give money to young women so they would have a dowry to bring to their marriage. The story most often repeated was how he would don a disguise and go out and merrily give gifts to poor children. He was imprisoned because of his faith, but persevered through the hard times to become a bishop of the church at Myra. When he died, only in his mid-30s, he had given away virtually everything he had ever owned.

His heritage lives on today as we give gifts of love to those around us. Nicholas's life echoes the words of the Lord Jesus Christ he so faithfully served, "It is more blessed to give than to receive." (Acts 20:35). Yes, his persona has been conveniently customized to fit into a more commercial and increasingly secular society. Clement Moore gave him a red nose and eight tiny reindeer. Thomas Nast, an illustrator, drew him big and plump, outfitting him in a bright red suit trimmed with white fur. In spite of this, I still believe in Santa Claus, the real one, the one who shared his faith and commitment to the Lord through acts of love and kindness.

How about you, do you believe in Santa?

Mission enjoyable



Pictured left to right, first row, Master Sgt. Ron Sutton, Larry McGinn, Staff Sgt. Darryl Wood. Back row, Staff Sgt. Allan McCoy, Tech. Sgt. Allan McCoy, and Staff Sgt. Gene Stoneburner.

By Tech Sgt. David Morton
Front Range Flyer

It was service above and beyond when 39th Aerial Port Squadron members decided on a unique way to present an award.

Five uniformed members of the 39th APS recently traveled space-available on one of the wing's C-130 aircraft to Patrick Air Force Base, and then jumped into a rental car, off to Crystal Beach, Fla. All this effort was to formally honor a former military member and a lifetime friend, Tech. Sgt. Larry McGinn. McGinn received his AF commendation medal during a special retirement ceremony.

McGinn, a long-time member of the squadron and former Desert

Storm veteran with more than 20 years military service had moved to Florida to be close to family and friends following an extended illness with a debilitating brain tumor.

"Although the evening was short, it was rich in so many ways," Cathy Gillen, McGinn's sister, said. "It's something Larry and his family will never forget. We know a lot of planning went into the evening and are grateful for your love of our brother."

"I think this expression of camaraderie and hope for this individual is an example of the character and esprit de corps that resides in the 39th Aerial Port Squadron," said Col. Wes Langland, 302 Operations Group commander. "They take care of their own."

Tri-wing effort showcases total force

By Staff Sgt. Jennifer Thibault
50th Space Wing Public Affairs

Three wings located at two bases stepped up to showcase the Air Force in its total capacity October 16-17.

The 302nd Airlift Wing, 21st Space Wing and 50th Space Wing flew more than 20 local civic leaders to Nellis Air Force Base, Nev. and Vandenberg Air Force Base, Calif. to see first hand the Air Force in action.

"Teaming with the 50th Space Wing and 302nd Airlift Wing proved beneficial to everyone—especially to these civic leaders who saw Nellis and Vandenberg, but also gained a glimpse of these Colorado Springs-based wings," said Brig. Gen. Duane Deal, 21st Space Wing Commander. "Not a single leader came away without expanded knowledge to add a much greater appreciation for our Total Force and its members."

The group boarded one of the 302nd AW's C-130s and enjoyed breath-taking views during the journey towards the "city that never sleeps." Sheriff John Anderson, El Paso County, was repeatedly found peering out the window. "It's so beautiful. You don't get this type of view on civilian airplanes," he said.

Upon landing at Nellis AFB, visitors partook of a huge display of military aircraft on site for the current Red Flag exercise. F-15s, F-16s, B-1s, F-117s, B-2s, E-3s were on scene. "This is like an air show on the ground," added Dr. Mark Maksimowicz, superintendent, Falcon School District 49.

Briefings at the Air Warfare Center from Col. Ron Mittenzwei, commander 414th Combat Training Squadron showed exactly how the Air Force trains to better prepare as a combat-ready military. Video game-like scenes popped up onscreen to show a past exercise in motion. "My parents told me playing video games would get me nowhere," said Chief Master Sgt. Bobby Smith, command chief for the 302nd AW. "I should have kept playing Space Invaders," he said



Col. Richard R. Moss, 302nd Airlift Wing commander, Clark Curtis, Col. Larry James, 50th Space Wing commander and Brig. Gen. Duane Deal, 21st Space Wing commander pose for a photo before returning to Peterson AFB during the October civic lead tour. (Photo by 2nd Lt. Susie Kohout)

and smiled.

How space is opening the door in warfighting capability was the next briefing's theme. Later, the group moved on to discover some enemy aircraft and armament housed at Nellis AFB, an F-117 Stealth fighter flew overhead in support of the current aircraft exercise. "Can you see it," jokingly asked Bernie Zager, curator for the museum. Zager highlighted several types of weaponry, including tanks. "This tank's gas tank is in the rear—this helped allow for continued forward motion despite being fired upon. I think it might also have deterred retreat," he joked.

On day two of the tour, group members rose before the sun to continue their adven-

ture and travel to Vandenberg AFB to round out a 36 hour education and introduction to today's Air Force.

"Showing our civic leaders what the world's best Air Force is doing is extremely important," said Col. Larry James, 50th SW commander. "These folks are key leaders will greatly enhance our base/community relationships and partnerships. In turn, these civic leaders will go out and spread the word to their co-workers, friends and associates, greatly multiplying the positive effect throughout the community."

Chip Dreamer, group sales rep for the Colorado Springs Sky Sox, said, "I was aware we had an Air Force, but didn't know much about it."

All that has now changed since Dreamer and the other civic leaders saw in person just what the Air Force does day-to-day.

"I lived in Denver as a child and knew about Peterson but I never really understood all that the base or the Air Force does," said Eldon Likkel, Cripple Creek Chamber of Commerce.

"This trip achieved every goal we had," said Col. Richard R. Moss, 302nd Airlift Wing commander and tri-host for the tour. "We educated members of the community about the Air Force and the Air Force Reserve, we strengthened relationships and everyone had a good time."



Bernie Zager, curator for the Nellis AFB, Nev. museum, explains some of the equipment used by America's enemies. A Hind, a Soviet attack helicopter, can be seen in the background. (Photo by 2nd Lt. Susie Kohout)

Get smart the old fashioned

By Tech. Sgt. David D. Morton
Front Range Flyer

Next month begins 2003, and the beginning of new resolutions. Education is often one of the areas to look at for self-improvement. The photos of the people on this page are here to help you achieve your educational goals. These two pages are just the tip of the iceberg in the information they can give you in person.

Professional Military Education

In the second month of the fiscal year, the wing education and training office has scheduled 189 military schools for unit members. "Education is a retention tool of the Air Force Reserve," said Kathy Ellis, training technician. "New recruits want to know what the reserve can do for them professionally and personally."

"We're trying to appeal to the lowest level airman, and meet their career development needs," said Rice. "We want to give them a chance to grow and advance within their careers."

Tuition reimbursement

Reservists receive 100 percent reimbursement of the tuition costs up to \$4,500 annually for educational programs offered by Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Educational Support. Support for members pursuing master's degrees will receive the same educational benefits as last year with the Reserve reimbursing up to 75 percent of the tuition costs.

Test out of classes

The College Level Examination Program (CLEP) and the Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Support (DANTES) are standardized tests and still a big part of the Air Force Reserve educational process. "You can CLEP a course and receive college credit for it. Most colleges will accept credit for the course, but you need to check with your educational institution first," said Tech. Sgt. Louise Rasmussen, non-commissioned officer in charge of wing training.

Spouse is eligible

One unique aspect with DANTES and CLEP is spouses of reserve members are eligible to participate free of charge. The spouse of a reserve member is allowed to participate and should have a DD form 1173, dependent identification card prior to any testing.

Got Math?

Friday and Saturday evenings of Unit Training Assembly for 10 total days, the University of Southern Colorado will instruct Math 109. See Rasmussen or Staff Sgt. Michelle Woody for the details.

NCO leadership development

Master Sgt. Clayton Miller, assistant chief of education and training, wants all E-3 through E-7 members involved in the next Non-Commissioned Leadership Development Program. It begins March 31 for two weeks and provides two semester hours of college credit, a pos-



Chief Master Sgt. Carolyn Rice
Chief of Education and Training

"We've instituted more customer friendly approach and we've incorporated education training bulletins and pamphlets to let wing members know what is available to them."



Staff Sgt. Michelle Woody

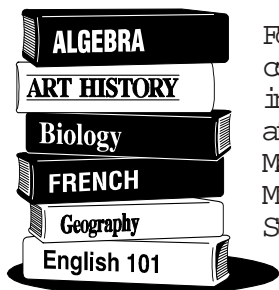


Tech. Sgt. David Dryden

sible tie-breaker in promotions and board review, and a way to meet other unit members.

Scholarship resources

The Scholarship Resource Network is a computer-based educational funding database. The program provides individuals a customized report of scholarship resources personalized specifically for them. Applications for this computer database are available at the Family Support Office located in Bldg. 895, room 207.



For more information, contact the Wing Training and Education Office at 6-7250, or contact Master Sgt. Clayton Miller 860 Malmstrom St., Ste. 104, Peterson AFB, CO 80914-1179.

Education Open House

Dec. 8 from 8:00 a.m.-12:00, Bldg. 895
302nd Wing Training Room.

Representatives from the University of Southern Colorado and Pikes Peak Community College will be on hand to discuss reserve members educational goals. Information on the New Tuition Assistance Scholarship, GI Bill, CCAF and Free Clep testing will be provided.

midway-back to school



Master Sgt.
Clayton Miller



Tech. Sgt. Louise
Rasmussen



Kathy Ellis



Tech. Sgt.
Michelle Wright

Joining the ranks of Club 90

Wing members who achieve a score of 90 percent or higher on their Career Development Course receive a certificate from the wing commander recognizing their achievement. Congratulations to the the wing members who just joined the 90 Percent Club.

Biomedical Equipment Technology

Staff Sgt. Jennifer Southworth

Allied Health Sciences

Senior Airman Timothy Beals

Staff Sgt. Heidi Hale

Staff Sgt. Cheryl Smith

Optometric Technician

Staff Sgt. Richele Beckett

Fitness Recreation & Service Mgt

Staff Sgt. Gerhard Klingler

Avionics Systems Technology

Tech. Sgt. Michael Ribich

Staff Sgt. Thomas Jackson

Senior Airman Travis Romero

Communications Applications Technology

Senior Airman Jennifer Hallock

Aircraft Systems

Maintenance Technology

Staff Sgt. Sgt Robert Taylor

Transportation

Staff Sgt. David Gilman

Staff Sgt. David Warner

Senior Master Sgt. Robert Green

Air & Space

Operations Technology

Master Sgt. Vivian Elmo

Staff Sgt. Lisa Christensen

Staff Sgt. William Musser

Staff Sgt. Robert Kerr

Staff Sgt. Dewayne Robinson

Staff Sgt. Darren Lane

Troops to teachers

Another unique opportunity provided to reservists is the new "Troops to Teachers" program. In January 2002, the Troops to Teachers program expanded to include reserve component service members.

Under the program, the U.S. Department of Education and Defense Department team up to help qualified service members transition from the military to teaching careers. The program enables military members to not only take college level courses, but also provide them the opportunity to instruct courses as well.

A bachelor's degree from an accredited institution is required or one year of college with six years experience in a vocational or technical field. For more information, visit the Web site www.ProudToServeAgain.com



Congratulations

Logistics

Master Sgt. Kim Duff

Air and Space Operations Technology

Tech. Sgt. Guy Thayer

Tech. Sgt. Darlene Boyd

Criminal Justice

Staff Sgt. Mark Abbotts

Personnel Administration

Master Sgt. Jeanne Berry

Senior Master Sgt. Jonathan Christian

Tech. Sgt. Pamela Gabarron

Master Sgt. Barbara Huber

Master Sgt. Joanne Lantz

Information Management

Staff Sgt. Michele Harvey

Electronic Systems Technology

Master Sgt. Lisa Devore

Staff Sgt. Eugene Moore

Aviation Operations

Tech. Sgt. Paul Horwat

Avionics Systems Technology

Senior Airman Isadore Montle

Information Technology

Staff Sgt. Deborah Kozel

Aviation Maintenance Technology

Tech. Sgt. Paul Horwat

Master Sgt. Kenneth Kunkel

Flight Engineering

Master Sgt. Kenneth Kunkel

Mental Health Science

Senior Airman Renee Montour

Once a Marine, always a Marine

By Maj Jim Edwards
384th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron

Master Sgt. Kenneth French and Staff Sgt. Ray Birch attended the 277th United States Marine Corps Anniversary Celebration, hosted by the USMC's Marine Aerial Refueling Transport Squadrons 252nd and 452nd-Detachment A.

French and Birch are normally members of the 310th Security Forces Squadron, Schriever AFB, Colo., but are currently deployed with the USMC units at a location in the Central Command Area of Responsibility, the 384th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron.

While these noncommissioned officers are currently serving admirably with the United States Air Force Reserve, each has had service in the USMC. When the USMC Anniversary occurs, Nov. 10, a call is placed out to all Marines—active, reserve, civilian, and veteran Marines.

"Once a Marine, always a Marine," said U.S. Marine Corps Lt. Col. Tex Ritter, VMGR-452nd commander. "They may have swapped their Eagle Globe and Anchors for Air Force insignia, but in their hearts, and in our eyes they are still a part of our Marine Corps." For this reason, both French and Birch were asked to attend.

The evening was especially momentous for French as he was honored as the oldest Marine present. Part of this ceremony included Ritter cutting the USMC birthday cake with a USMC Kay-bar and then allowing

French to have the first piece, with the youngest Marine having the second piece. French was then honored as the Marines read his biography. French entered the United States Marine Corps on July 18, 1971 and upon graduating USMC boot camp, he

was presented with the Leatherneck Medal in recognition of attaining platoon high shooter. He then was assigned to several United States Navy ships and was instrumental in the naval blockade portion of Operation LINEBACKER during the Vietnam Conflict.

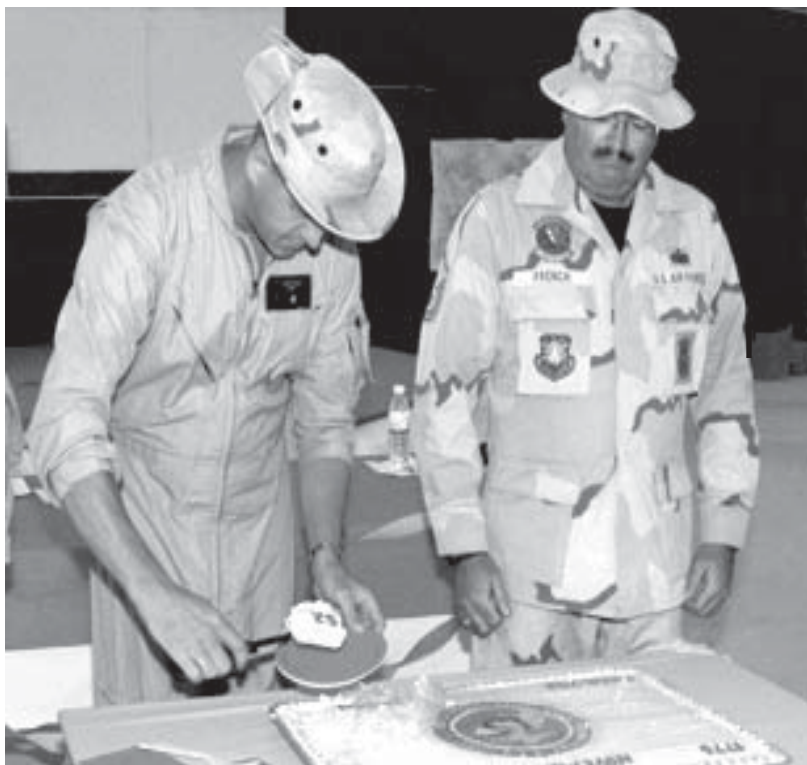
While French had an illustrious USMC career, perhaps his most interesting story was his work in recovering the Skylab II mission capsule. This is truly ironic for in essence, his USMC career ended with his work on Skylab II, and his Reserve career will end with his assignment to the 310th SFS, the only security forces squadron dedicated to the security of ground based assets of the terrestrial satellite network. French is scheduled to retire in February 2003.

"It was really special to be there with the young guys from the Corps again; it was like I never left" said French.

"As with anything the Marines do, this was first class," said Birch. "They went all out to honor their history and their roots."

The event was a welcome respite from the arduous conditions the members of these two units endure everyday – long hours living in field conditions away from family and friends. For just a few hours, the Marines of this classified location were able to enjoy one another's camaraderie and celebrate the rich and distinguished heritage of the United States Marine Corps –

Semper Fidelis!



Lt. Col. Tex Ritter, U.S. Marine Corps, 452nd commander, on left, gives the oldest Marine at their deployed location, Master Sgt. Kenneth French, the first piece of the U.S. Marine Corps' 277th Anniversary cake.



Lots of stripes meets lots of stars

Good timing a world away gives new chief a unique memory

By Maj. Jim Edwards

384th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron

Senior Master Sgt. Richard C. McDonald is now Chief Master Sgt. Richard C. McDonald thanks to some quick coordination by his subordinates, and the graciousness of a cooperative Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

McDonald is the Security Forces manager for the 310th Security Forces Squadron at Schriever Air Force Base. Currently, he is the security forces manager for the 384th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron, located at a classified location known only as "Site 41" in the Central Command Area of Responsibility. A 20-year veteran of the Air Force Reserve, he was selected and scheduled to be promoted to chief master sergeant on Nov. 1.

"As luck would have it, we had the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, General Richard B. Myers, scheduled to conduct a quick visit and 'troop call'

with the residents of Site 41," explained Lt. Col. Gary E. Nelson, commander of the 310th and currently commander of the 384th. "Someone approached me about having the chairman 'frock' Rick to chief since he was arriving a mere three days before the effective date of the promotion order. It sounded like a good idea, so we ran up the chain of command locally, and asked the chairman's staff in Washington if he'd be willing to do this. He (Myers) was ecstatic to be invited to participate."

Immediately upon the chairman's arrival, he called McDonald up on stage with Senior Airman Gabrielle Clary, also of the 310th Security Forces Squadron; being the youngest enlisted member of the 310th currently deployed with him, Clary was the chief's choice to "tack on" his new stripe. The chairman then told the audience of Rick's background, both as a civilian police officer, and his career with the Reserve.

"I was really amazed at how much

of my biography he knew," said McDonald; "I was truly honored that a man of his stature with a lot of things on his plate would take the time to learn my background. It was definitely a night I'll never forget.

"It's hard to believe that I'm a finally a chief master sergeant; it's a great feeling and the fulfillment of a dream I've had since I entered the Air Force Reserve over twenty years ago. While there are too many people to list, I owe this honor to all of the supervisors, peers and subordinates who have helped me along the way. They all know who they are and to them, I am deeply honored. This promotion is not a reflection on me; it's a reflection on them."

Although the chairman had less than an hour with the residents of Site 41, commonly called Camp Oasis, everyone was honored that he took time out of a whirlwind two-day tour of the area of operations to spend a few moments with them and share his words of wisdom.



Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff General Richard B. Myers speaks during the promotion ceremony for Chief Master Sgt. Richard C. McDonald, 310th Security Forces security manager. Senior Airman Gabrielle Clary, also with the 310th SFS and the youngest deployed member of the group, helped the general tack on the Chief's new stripes.

NCO and Airman for fourth quarter



Tech. Sgt. Andrea Fisher

Tech. Sgt. Andrea Fisher is the Noncommissioned Officer of the Quarter. As an Air Reserve Technician, she is the Superintendent of Services and non-commissioned officer in charge of Plans and Force Management during Unit Training Assemblies.

"She epitomizes the professional Noncommissioned Officer, and is a true leader and mentor to junior members of the unit," said Lt. Col. Charlton English, Mission Support Squadron commander.

Airman First Class Joshua Griffith, 302nd MSS, is the Airman of the Quarter.

As a food service apprentice at the Aragon Dining Facility, he prepares more than 1500 meals for active duty and reserve members during the unit training assemblies.

"Airman Griffith is eager to learn and his performance exceeds his rank," said English.

Welcome newcomers

302nd Airlift Wing

Senior Airman Melissa Preston

310th Space Group

Captain Laura Cantu

Captain Ronald Farmer

Captain John Henley

Staff Sgt. Robert Wilson

39th Aerial Port Squadron

Captain James Stoddard

Tech. Sgt. Richard Rowcliffe

Staff Sgt. Michael Johnson

Staff Sgt. Jerry Westlake

731st Airlift Squadron

Airman 1st Class Jessica Eblen

302nd Maintenance Squadron

Tech. Sgt. Jody Henson

Senior Airman Heath Alan Orloske

Senior Airman Leon Michael Peterson

Airman 1st Class Randy Lojewski

Airman 1st Class Rodolfo Ramirez

302nd Mission Support Squadron

Airman 1st Class Marcus Wilson

302nd Logistics Support Squadron

Tech. Sgt. Angela Bankston

302nd Security Forces Squadron

Staff Sgt. Michael Moore

Senior Airman Stephanie McKemy

302nd Aeromedical Staging Squadron

Staff Sgt. Jason Pedersen

Airman 1st Class Brandon Chacon

302nd Operations Support Flight

Staff Sgt. Jeff Castro

Congratulations Promotees

Senior Master Sergeant

Jeanne Berry

Brian Garcia

Thaddus Montgomery

Gregory Parker

Bradley Schlenker

Bradley Serazio

Charles Sturgis

Ronald Tiff

Master Sergeant

Derrick Ashcraft

Jeffrey Aubin

Hector Delacruz

Kimberly Guidry

William Harris

Jerome Hinojos

Patrick Trujillo

James Zubor

Technical Sergeant

Dana Andrews

Linda Ayers

Justin Bankert

Perry Barr

Christopher Brennan

Joshua Burdick

Rick Dunlevy

Arnel Garcia

Augusto Goncalves

Darryl Martinez

Roger Sheets

Kimberly Sievertsen

Frank Stachitus

Charles Totten

Adrian Villarreal

Staff Sergeant

Yvonda Lefebvre

James MaClarty

Heath Orloske

Tony Turner

Airman 1st Class

Lawrence Burns

Amy Grant

Senior Airman

Maria Aguilar

Michael Baumgartner

Joshua Griffith

Isaiah Lechowit

Paul Pharris

Esta Schmider

Brendon Sucher

Combat veterans may qualify for medical care

By 2nd Lt. Lance T. Patterson

AFRC Public Affairs

ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga. - Air Force reservists who serve on active duty in a combat zone on or after Nov. 11, 1998, may qualify for Department of Veterans Affairs medical benefits.

For most conditions, eligible members receive two years of free VA medical care from the date of discharge from active duty. To qualify, reservists must complete the specified tour of duty on their mobilization orders but they only need to be in a combat zone one day to get VA hospital care, outpatient services and nursing care.

Veterans who served in combat before Nov. 11, 1998, have to prove that a medical problem is connected to their military service to receive free VA

care for that condition, or they must have relatively low incomes. Those who serve in a combat zone or in comparable hostilities on or after that date don't have to prove either a service connection for their health-care problems or that they have low incomes.

"We are able to help the newest generation of combat veterans serving in Afghanistan and engaged in the war against terrorism in ways not available to previous generations of veterans," said Secretary of Veterans Affairs Anthony J. Principi in a VA news release Oct. 15.

Locations of VA medical facilities are available by checking the local telephone book, going to the VA Web site www.va.gov or calling 1-877-222-VETS (8387). (AFRC News Service)

Unit Training Assembly Schedule

December 7-8

S
A
T
U
R
D
A
Y

0530 – 1000	Breakfast is served	Aragon Dinning Facility	SVS/6-4001
0600 – 0730	“Jump Start” Fellowship	Sandy’s Restaurant	HC/6-4006
0730 – 1500	Newcomers Orientation	Bldg 893 Conf Room	MPF/6-7976
0730 – 0900	No Meeting Period*	All Locations	CV/6-7087
0730 – 1630	Physical Exams	Clinic	ASTS/6-1132
0800-	Weapons Custodian Training	Bldg 140	SFS/6-6536
0900 – 1000	UTM Meeting	Bldg 895 Room 204	DPMT/6-7249
0900 – 1000	HRDC Meeting	Bldg 895 Room 206	CV/6-7087
0900 – 1000	Supervisor Safety Meeting	Bldg 350 Room 1052	SE/6-8163
0900 – 1100	Immunizations	Clinic	ASTS/1132
1000 – 1030	Wing Training Plan Council	Bldg 895 Room 203	CCX/6-6770
1000 – 1100	1st Sergeants Meeting	MG Conference Room	6-6109
1100 – 1700	Let’s Do Lunch!	Aragon Dining Facility	SVS/6-4001
1100 – 1230	Lunch & A Lift	Aragon Colorado Room	HC/6-4006
1200 – 1600	Chemical Training	Bldg 1324 2 nd Floor	CE/6-7221
1215 – 1530	CDC/PME Testing	Bldg 895 Room 203/204	DPMT/6-7250
1300 – 1600	Chaplains Available	Bldg 893 Room 143	HC/6-4006
1300 – 1400	DNA/HIV Testing	Clinic	SG/6-1132
1500 – 1530	Anthrax Briefing	Bldg 893 Conference Room	ASTS/4-1136
2000 – 2300	Late night snack	Aragon Dining Facility	SVS/6-4001

*No meetings directed to allow commanders to spread UTA information updates Saturday morning

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0530 – 1000	Breakfast Available	Aragon Dining Hall	SVS/6-4001
0800 – 0900	Career Advisors Training	Bldg 895 Room 203	MPF/6-7702
0800 – 0900	3AO AFSC Training	Bldg 893 Wing Conf	SC/6-8192
0800 – 1200	Chemical Refresher*	Bldg 1324 2d Floor	DP/6-7221
0800 – 1200	Education Open House	Wing Training Room	DPMT/6-7250
0900 – 1000	Airman/NCO of Year Board	Bldg 845 21 SW HQ Conf	DPM/6-7976
1100 – 1200	Mask fitting	Bldg 1324 2 nd Floor	DP/6-7221
1100 – 1700	Let’s Do Lunch	Aragon Dining Facility	SVS/6-4001
1215 – 1530	CDC / PME Testing	Bldg 895 Room 203/204	DPMT/6-7250
1300 – 1400	DNA/HIV Testing	Clinic	ASTS/6-1132
1300 – 1400	Commanders SORTS Mtg	Command Post CAT Room	CC/6-7369
1500 – 1530	Anthrax Briefing	Bldg 893 Wing Conf Room	ASTS/4-1136
1500 – 1600	Homosexual Policy	Bldg 893 Room 111	JA/6-8140
2000 – 2300	Late Night Snack	Aragon Dining Hall	SVS/6-4001

* Held Sunday since classes must be given both Saturday and Sunday to get everyone trained

**** Military ID cards are MANDATORY for ALL testing. For CDC end-of-course exams, a testing authorization letter is also MANDATORY. Testing authorization letters will be obtained from the respective Unit Training Manager/Monitor.**

*****Disregard hours posted on the door (do not take UTAs into consideration). Doors will be unlocked.**

Bad weather? Call before coming to work

Base closure procedures indicate only essential members report for duty, while delayed reporting procedures authorize non-essential members extra time to safely report.

The **Peterson Snow Information** line is **556-SNOW (556-7669)**. It is

available and updated by 5:00 a.m. Monitoring local radio and television broadcasts during inclement weather is helpful. Base conditions will be relayed from the 21st Space Public Affairs Office.

SnoFest festival open to reservists and families

By Lt. Jeremy Eggers
50th Space Wing Public Affairs

Tickets went on sale Nov. 1 for the military's 13th annual snow sports weekend, SnoFest.

The three-day festival features discounted lodging, lift tickets, food and entertainment from Jan. 24-26, 2003, at Keystone Ski Resort, Colo. "This annual event is a tremendous opportunity for our troops and their family members to experience Rocky Mountain skiing and snowboarding at its finest," said Gen. Lance Lord, Air Force Space Command commander.

SnoFest is open to all eligible Department of Defense identification card holders, such as active-duty personnel, Reservists and Guardsmen, retirees, non-appropriated fund employees and civilian federal

employees.

"Events are being planned not only for skiers, but non-skiers and children as well; there will be something for everybody," said said Col. Rick Rogers, SnoFest committee chairman.

People can make reservations beginning Nov. 1. Rooms start at \$114 per night (for a deluxe studio that sleeps four). For reservations only, call Keystone lodging at (800) 258-0437. People at Front Range bases will have special discount codes, available through their information tickets, and travel offices, to use when making reservations. People at bases outside the Front Range should use the "Rocky Mountain Blue" discount code. For more information on lodging, call Tamera Erickson, AFSPC services, at (719) 554-7735.

Lift tickets for SnoFest are \$29 each day

for adults and will be available at base ITT offices. Special youth prices for lift tickets will be available as well. There are two after-ski parties scheduled: the "South of the Border" after-ski party is Jan. 24 and the "All-American Sports" after-ski party is Jan. 25. Tickets for the after-ski parties go on sale at ITT offices. People outside Front Range bases may buy lift tickets and after-ski party tickets by calling Schriever ITT at (719) 567-6050.

Other events scheduled are a Cardboard Derby race, where families or organizations build and race a cardboard snow sled. There will also be ski races, sleigh rides, snowshoeing and cross country skiing. Non-skiers can shop at Silverthorne Outlet Mall, visit the Glenwood Springs hot springs or sightsee in Breckenridge.

It's the holiday season time to reach out and Care and Share

By Chaplain (Capt.) Tim Wilson
302nd Airlift Wing Chaplain

The holiday season is a time of gifts. The gift of renewed friendships as we send and receive colorful Christmas cards, the gift of music as we listen to and sing carols of old, and of course all the presents under the tree that make kids feel like Christmas will never come.

This December Unit Training Assembly you have a special opportunity to share a gift that can last the whole year



long. Collection buckets for monetary donations are at unit orderly rooms. Or if you wish, come by the chaplain's office to donate. A voluntary donation of one dollar by every wing member would go a long way to help with the "Care and Share" effort. Of course,

donations larger than a dollar will gladly be accepted.

All contributions go directly to wing members experiencing extenuating needs. To apply for consideration for Care and Share funds or if you are aware of someone with a special need please contact your first sergeant.

Thank you so much for your generosity. Your willingness to share makes a big difference! Have a wonderful and blessed holiday season!

Annual Family Support Toy Drive



Family Support is collecting toys for needy Colorado families. There are collection boxes in each squadron. The need is in the 302nd Airlift Wing will be first to receive the toys. If anyone knows of families or organizations that could

benefit from these toys, please contact the Family Support office, (719) 556-6505 or 556-7951.

302nd Airlift Wing Public Affairs
860 Malmstrom St., Ste 138
Peterson AFB CO 80914-1179

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